



## ACTIVE BYSTANDER

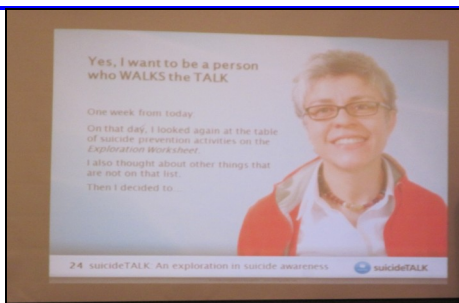
Recurring man-made disasters, life-threatening emergencies, and natural disasters mandate that communities be better prepared to respond and recover from these events. Experiences throughout the world with mass casualty events have increasingly highlighted the important role that “Active Bystanders”—persons at the scene of an event who voluntarily

step forward to help others — can play in saving lives. A course is currently under development by FEMA and the CDC to help the general public learn how to take safe and appropriate actions if and when they find themselves at the scene of a mass casualty event or other emergency situation.

On Tuesday, July 22nd, the Southwest Virginia MRC will participate in the pilot project by testing the training modules. The plan is to offer the training in two 2-hour sessions, afternoon and evening (with a break for supper). The location is yet to be determined; however, [if you are interested in taking this new class and helping to shape a brand-new FEMA Course, please drop Kristina Morris a note or complete this survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SWVAMRCActivebystander](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SWVAMRCActivebystander). June 11th, selected SWVA MRC volunteers will undergo Train-The-Trainer instruction in order to provide the course instruction to volunteers.

This is an exciting opportunity to be involved with a brand-new FEMA course. Once it is finalized, the SWVA MRC will be in a wonderful position to begin training the general public on Active Bystander responses. With Bristol Motor Speedway in the backyard and a region blessed with numerous public events, this will be an excellent tool to better prepare citizens.

⇒ **The Suicide Awareness Training** conducted last summer by The Crisis Center was very well received and many volunteers are still awaiting the opportunity to take these classes. As soon as the Active Bystander pilot project is completed, work will begin to schedule Suicide TALK and ASIST training for the SWVA MRC in late summer and early fall.



⇒ **Psychological First Aid Training** is being offered on Wednesday, June 18th at the Higher Ed Center in Abingdon. This free class begins at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 4:30 p.m. Lunch is on your own. Registration for Course #1049443 can be completed on [TRAIN Virginia](http://TRAIN.Virginia).

⇒ For any SWVA MRC members who need to complete the ICS-100 Intro to Incident Command, the VA MRC is offering an video training introductory course, “ICS in a Nutshell”, on Thursday, June 19th beginning at 6:00 p.m. It can be viewed at Carroll Co. Health Dept. and Tazewell Co. Health Dept. Registration for Course # 1031567 MUST BE COMPLETED on [TRAIN Virginia](http://TRAIN.Virginia).

## 10th Anniversary



The first order placed for our 10th Anniversary Polo Shirts was very popular. Many compliments on the shirts were received during the Spring Drug Take Back.

If you would like your very own Anniversary Polo Shirt (which by the way are very soft), you may send your order to [Gail Mullins, Smyth Co. Capt, 122 Mill Dam Road, Saltville, VA 24370](mailto:Gail.Mullins@SmythCo.com).

### Check or Money Order ONLY.

\$11.00 for S, M, L, XL

\$13.00 for 2X, 3X, 4X

As soon as 12 payments are received, the printing order can be placed.



# Southwest

VIRGINIA



medical  
reserve  
corps



## Volunteer Recognition

Southwest Virginia Medical Reserve Corps has once again been recognized for the outstanding service to the community. During 2014 National Volunteer Week, volunteers were nominated in five different categories from all over the

# Celebrate Service

National Volunteer Week  
April 6-12, 2014

Virginia Department of Health's Western District for outstanding service during the past 12 months. The following local volunteers are considered the "Best in the West" for 2013.

Public Health Activities—[Kemberly Campbell](#) for deployment to the spring NASCAR event at Martinsville

Emergency Response—[Susan Austin](#), [Barbara Farmer](#), [Michael Cobler](#) & [James Bangle](#) for responding to the I-77 Accident on Easter Weekend 2013.

Administrative Support—[Sarah Otis](#), [Jacob Kilbourne](#) and [Melissa Doane-Williams](#) for their work on the Social Media Team.



The Virginia Department of Emergency Management and the Virginia Citizen Corps office proudly recognized last week volunteer service in twelve different categories, including Outstanding MRC Volunteer. Southwest Virginia Medical Reserve Corps is extremely proud to announce that the partnership with The Crisis Center in Bristol was selected as "Outstanding Public or Private Sector Partner". The partnership between our two agencies lead to the Suicide TALK training, which was provided free-of-charge to local volunteers and community members during the summer of 2013. An added bonus to this recognition, Janie McGlocklin of Meadowview was honorably mentioned in the Outstanding MRC Volunteer category.



Friends, it is another exciting spring in Southwest Virginia. The Drug Take Back held on April 26th (see some of the great pictures above) was the largest event to involve the unit yet. There were more volunteers and more drop zones than ever before and from the looks of the pictures, including selfies, everyone had a blast. Please make plans to join this outstanding activity again in the fall.

The most exciting endeavor for volunteers is the upcoming "Active Bystander" training for non-medically trained volunteers and community members. Because of the accident at Trail Days in Damascus last May and having Bristol Motor Speedway in our background, it was suggested that the Southwest Virginia MRC would be a great group to test a brand new FEMA training course. The next six weeks are going to be busy as Trainers prepare and the course is offered on July 22nd. Don't miss the opportunity to shape a new course from FEMA and the CDC.

On July 1st, the Virginia Volunteer Health System will be changing and with it will come the ability to TEXT, yes I said TEXT, alerts to volunteers! YIPPEE!!! Watch for more information on the new system and how you will use it.

Have a wonderful, safe and happy spring and summer. Stay connected, stay in-touch and stay safe. Fondly, Kristina